

91-12-17 VV ESA063BRA402

IMMEDIATE ACTION

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WEEKS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, AR (WEEKS, JAMES MARTIN)

SUBJECT: PRESS BRIEFING

FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OCCURRED AT DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING TODAY:

QUOTE. Q. FRED, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON FATHER WEEKS, IN ARGENTINA, AND WHAT YOU ARE DOING BESIDE THE USUAL?

A. AS YOU KNOW, FATHER WEEKS WAS ARRESTED, AND IS IN DETENTION AT THE MOMENT BY THE ARGENTINIAN GOVERNMENT. THE ARGENTINIANS INFORMED US OF THIS FACT, THAT HE HAD BEEN DETAINED FOR ALLEGED "SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES."

WE HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN CONSULAR ACCESS TO FATHER WEEKS. AS YET WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO GAIN THAT ACCESS.

Q. DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE HE HAS BEEN ARRESTED.

A. THAT IS MY UNDERSTANDING.

WE ARE ACTIVELY AND URGENTLY TRYING TO GAIN CONSULAR ACCESS TO HIM.

Q. WHEN WAS HE ARRESTED, FRED?

A. THE DATE OF HIS ARREST, I BELIEVE, WAS EITHER AUGUST 4TH OR 5TH.

Q. AREN'T THEY DRAGGING THEIR FEET ON THIS CONSULAR ACCESS? I MEAN, THE ARGENTINES. IT HAS BEEN SEVEN DAYS SINCE HIS ARREST.

A. YES, IT HAS BEEN AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS. THEY HAVE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT PROCEDURES, AND I AM NOT AWARE OF THE PRECISE NATURE OF WHAT THE PROBLEM IS. I DO KNOW THAT WE ARE PURSUING IT AS ACTIVELY AND AS DILIGENTLY AS WE CAN, GIVEN THE SITUATION IN ARGENTINA AT THE MOMENT.

I DON'T REALLY HAVE MUCH MORE THAN THAT. UNQUOTE. ROBINSON

UNCLASSIFIED

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

In Part () In Full ()

DECONTROL

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